ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing apparatus and an image processing method of the present invention improves image quality during monochrome output by adaptively

5   executional conversion from a color image signal to a monochrome image signal during monochrome image output, and by using outputs from color and monochrome sensors at the same time. Moreover, it lowers the cost of compressing a color signal by using a color sensor with

10   a lower resolution than that of the monochrome sensor.